

By the Queene.



The Queenes Maiestie considering the euill disposition of sundry her Subiectes to obserue the auncient orders for abstinence from eating of fleshe, aswell in the tyme of Lent, as of other vsuall fasting dayes: And waying the great notable commodities growing by the due obseruation thereof within this Land, many maner of wayes: Strayghtly chargeth all maner of people residing in the same, to obserue and kepe the auncient and laudable order for fasting, aswell in this Lent time, as vpon other fysh days. And lyke wyse commaundeth all manner officers both Ecclesiasticall and Tempozall, to whom the regard hereof doth belong, strayghtly to see the same well and duely obserued. Willing and commanding them both in the name of Almighty God, before whom they shall aunswere for their perticuler charges, and as they wyll also aunswere to her Maiestie for the apparaunt contempt or negligence, that they do not either by theyr owne example, or by lacke of execution of their auctoritie, permyt such licencious and carnall disorder, in contempt of God and man, & onely to the satisfacti- on of deuply be and carnall appetite, to bee suffered unpunysed. And because the manner of the execution hereof in the Citie & Suburbes of London & Westminster shall geue good example to the rest of the Realme: Her Maiestie by this present Proclamation strayghtly commaundeth and chargeth the Maior of her said Citie, and other principall officers of Westminster, that no Bocher, Pulter, nor victueller shall kylle or sell, or cause to be kylled or solde within the said Citie or the Suburbes, or within Westminster, or the iurisdic- tion thereof, any fleshe, before the Tuesday next after Palme Sunday next comming: nor that any Table keeper, Inholder, Victueller, or any other person that kepeth any house whereto anye persons do or shall re- sort for meate and drinke for theyr money, nor any other person resyding within the same places shall dresse or suffer, or consent to be dressed, or eate, or suffer to be eaten, any flesch within any of theyr houses before Ea- ster day next vpon payne that euery person and persons that shal offende contrary to this order, shall forseyt and pay to her hyghnesse for euery such offence twentie poundes, thone halfe to be disposed by theyr Church- wardens, to theyr pooze people inhabityng the paryshe where thoffence shal be founde, and thother to her hyghnesse vse, as in like case is ordered. And besides, yf the person offendyng be a Citizen, he shal by the Ma- ior and his brethren without delay be immediatly for euer disfraunchised: and being a Table keeper or Victu- eller, vtterly disabled in any place to vse the same Trade. And if he be no Citizen, then he shal ouer and besides the sayde forseyture, haue for euery such offence ten dayes imprisonment without bayle: And yf the partie offendyng be not able to pay the sayd forsayture immediatly vpon pzoofe made of thoffence committed, the same shal for euery such offence, stand one market day in the market time openly vpon the pillorye, du- ryng the space of vi. houres. And also that euery Alderman within his warde, shal twyse this Lent tyme cause an enquiry and presentment to bee made, by the othes of xii. honest and substantiall Citizens of the same Ward, being not Bochers, Pulters, common Victuellers, nor Table keepers, what persons haue or do offend in eating, kyllyng, or selling of fleshe within that warde: wherof thone enquiry shalbe the Sun- daye after mydlent Sunday, and the other in the weeke next before Easter, and that in the choise of the persons which shal so enquire, good regard be had, that they be such as be best disposed to fynd out, and truly to present such offences without respect of persons. And also that the Maior with his brethren cause once euery fornyght priuie search to be made by honest and trusty persons of the houses of all Bochers, Pulters, Table keepers, Tauerne, Victuellers, and other suspected houses, for the better vnderstanding whether they or any of them do offende in the pzemisses: and that yf they shal fynde either by this searche, or by a-

ny lawfull pꝛofe brought before them, any person to haue offended, that then immediately they cause thof-
fenders to be punished, as aboue is expꝛessed, without fauour, affection, or respect of person.

And it is further ordered and commanded, that as well the said Maior, as also euery of the said Aldermen,
and the principall officers within the liberties of Westminster, shall certifie vnto her highnesse Courte of
Chauncerie before the first day of Easter terme, vpon payne of C. ponde, what euery of them hath done
in the execution of the pꝛemises, vnder their hands and seales, to thintent that her highnesse thereby may
consider what diligence or negligence shall be vsed in the execution hereof, that therevpon order may be ta-
ken with euery one of them according to their deserts.

Provided alwayes that this order extende not to punish any person that by the lawes ecclesiasticall and
tempozall of this Realme, be permitted to sell, kill, or eate fleshe. And for the better intelligence of persons
licensed vpon reasonable and necessary cause, that none other maye be coulered thereby: it is ordered and
commaunded that euery person hauing any licence, shall notifie the same to the Alderman of the warde, and
Curate of the parish, or to one of them at the lease where he dwelleth, and intendeth to take the benefite of
the dispensation. This maner, or the like order, her Maiestie commaundeth to be obserued as nye as the
same may be in all places thꝛough her Realme, with like penaltie, and specially in all corpozall towne,
from which towne corpozate being scituate within xij. myles of London: her Maiesties pleasure is, that
certificate in fourme aforesaide be made into her Maiesties Chauncerie, at the furthest before the second re-
tourne of Easter Terme, vpon payne of one hundred poudes to be leuied to her Maiesties vse, vpon the said
corpozation so making default: and from all other corpozations, being further distant, certificat is to bee
made as is aforesaid before the last day of Easter Terme, vpon like penaltie. And for the better obseruation
hereof, her Maiestie requirerh, and in Gods name chargerh all Bishops, Curates, and other ecclesiasticall
persons hauing the cure of soules, or the charge of preaching, to exhort and perswade, the people to forbear
this carnall licence & boldnesse to breake common order, and to let them plainly vnderstande the great dan-
gers of the wꝛath of Almighty God, that hath and will alwayes light vpon such rebellious and obstinate
people, that moze regard their bellies and appetites, then tempozance and obedience.

Given at her Maiesties Pallace of Westminster the xxv. of February, the second yeere of her High-
nesse most noble Raigne.

God saue the Queene.

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Cum privilegio Regie Maestatis.